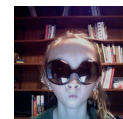


**From:** Michael Ebeling <mebeling@summitschool.com>  
**Subject:** Teaching and Learning Committee to Gather on October 1



**Date:** September 26, 2009 4:03:02 PM EDT

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**Bcc:** Michael Ebeling <mebeling@summitschool.com>

1 Attachment, 26.0 KB

Greetings Jan, Betsy, Tom, Ashley, Dack, Susan, Elizabeth, Nancy, Phil, Millicent, Charlie, Glenda, Karen, Josh, Lynne, Ryan, Virginia, Devon, Barbara, Kathy, Danette, Ryan, Jeff, and Roanne,

Let's plan to gather as a committee from 3:45 - 4:45 on Thursday, October 1 in the Board Room. I apologize in advance if there's a major event going on at that time and I've missed it on the calendar. Just let me know.

Way back on May 21 we met. Our primary focus at that time can be summed up in the following framing statement (taken from the May 14 email in preparation for the meeting):

Thank you for agreeing to serve as Subject Area Leaders in the coming year. You will be involved as architects, as it were, in designing a new structure at Summit--one that supports teacher leaders (YOU) in supporting colleagues in the following ways:

[1] Disseminating appropriate information related to research/current practices and generating discussion that evaluates it relative to our practices:

- Meeting regularly as Teaching and Learning Committee
- Looking at research together
- Keeping technology integration as a focus

[2] Facilitating coherence in curriculum across grade levels and divisions

- Generate and lead discussion by division and by subject area (discipline)

On Thursday October 1 we will come back together from 3:45 - 4:45 p.m. in the Board Room to begin to construct the framework for engaging in this work together this year.

As promised back in May, I have for each of you a copy of Zemelman, Daniels and Hyde's BEST PRACTICE: TODAY'S STANDARDS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING IN AMERICA'S SCHOOLS. I've placed your copy in your mailbox. Feel free, but not obliged, to thumb through it prior to Thursday's meeting. This resource represents the first piece of research we'll be looking at together. (Chapter One: Renewing Our Schools: The Progressive Consensus and Chapter 8: The Seven Structures of Best Practice Teaching will be the two chapters all of us read and discuss as the year progresses.)

As noted back in May, this book, like all resources, has its limits. While the cornerstone 13 interlocking principles apply to ALL teaching and learning, BEST PRACTICES does not specifically address the areas of counseling, technology and physical education. Consequently, our Subject Area Leaders and TLC members in these areas have their own "best practice" primers, as it were. Our P.E. folks are supplementing with John Ratey's book SPARK. Our counselor's have a primary resource they will tell us about for their area. Our technology folks are supplementing with several resources they will share with you.

Our agenda for Thursday is singular:

- + Establish an action plan for TLC: October through January
- Research to review
- Professional organizations to join
- Dates to meet to discuss: Research we've read and believe is relevant to our subject area faculty
- Reminder: This connects directly to Danielson's Framework for Teaching

Attached to this email you will find just a few Key Points from our May meeting. (This will take you less than five minutes. It is possibly the briefest document I have typed up this year--and represents just the thrust of our conversation back in May.) Thanks for taking the time to review prior to the meeting. Pat Capps and I look forward to joining you in important, thought-provoking and engaging work of this year.

Thanks,  
Michael



[TLCmay21.doc \(26.0 KB\)](#)

